

Supplementary Information

An Examination of Factors Influencing Small Proton Chemical Shift Differences in Nitrogen-Substituted Monodeuterated Methyl Groups

Stuart J. Elliott^a, O. Maduka Ogbagba^b, Lynda J. Brown^c and Daniel J. O'Leary^d

^aDepartment of Chemistry, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 7ZD, United Kingdom

^bChemistry and Biochemistry Program, Schmid College of Science and Technology, Chapman University, Orange, CA 92886, United States of America

^cSchool of Chemistry, University of Southampton, Southampton SO17 1BJ, United Kingdom

^dDepartment of Chemistry, Pomona College, Claremont, CA 91711, United States of America

1/ Natural Bond Orbital Analysis of n-s* Delocalization Energies (Hyperconjugation) in N-Methyl-2-Methylpiperidine Rotamers

The geometry of the diequatorial structure of *N*-methyl-2-methylpiperidine was first optimized in *Gaussian 16*¹ using B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) theory. Route section: # opt b3lyp/6-31g(d,p) geom=connectivity. The coordinates for the optimized structure are provided in **Table S1**.

This structure was used as the starting point for a relaxed dihedral angle scan, at the same level of theory, for 360° rotation about the *N*-CH₃ bond in 10° increments, using C₄-N₁₉-C₂₀-H₂₁ as reference atoms for defining the dihedral angle (**Figure S1**). Route section: # opt=modredundant b3lyp/6-31g(d,p) geom=connectivity.

The structures generated in the relaxed dihedral angle scan were then assigned to a single molecule group in *GaussView 6* and subject to a batch process in which each structure was used for a single point B3LYP/3-31G(d,p) natural bond orbital (NBO) calculation. Route section: # b3lyp/6-31g(d,p) pop=(full,savenbos,nboread) geom=connectivity. The default threshold for NBO E(2) delocalization energies is 0.5 kcal/mol; this threshold was lowered to 0.001 kcal/mol by adding additional input in the form of a final line within the *Gaussian* input file: \$NBO E2PERT=0.001 \$END.

The E(2) values for each dihedral angle (q) are provided in **Table S2**.

Table S1. B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) Optimized Coordinates for *N*-Methyl-2-Methylpiperidine.

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| C | -1.94039900 | 0.72886500 | 0.24360400 |
| C | -0.64324400 | 1.45497900 | -0.12336500 |
| C | 0.61289700 | 0.67346800 | 0.30242900 |
| C | -0.63537700 | -1.41252100 | 0.13793900 |
| C | -1.91032900 | -0.69817900 | -0.30953900 |
| H | -0.60034200 | 1.60493400 | -1.21035500 |
| H | -0.61455600 | 2.44803400 | 0.34071700 |
| H | -2.04207400 | 0.69263100 | 1.33748200 |
| H | -2.81003500 | 1.27872900 | -0.13487900 |

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| H | -0.59215900 | -2.41320300 | -0.30711000 |
| H | -0.66505400 | -1.55609100 | 1.23907800 |
| H | -1.93451600 | -0.67134100 | -1.40601800 |
| H | -2.78562600 | -1.26844200 | 0.02342000 |
| H | 0.61356600 | 0.61073000 | 1.41278800 |
| C | 1.86881100 | 1.43894600 | -0.12990700 |
| H | 1.79327900 | 2.48284600 | 0.19026000 |
| H | 2.78459000 | 1.03160700 | 0.30565600 |
| H | 1.96751900 | 1.42144900 | -1.22061400 |
| N | 0.57212500 | -0.68616400 | -0.27038100 |
| C | 1.75682800 | -1.47741900 | 0.04183900 |
| H | 2.65167500 | -1.03429700 | -0.39964800 |
| H | 1.93179900 | -1.59500600 | 1.12962700 |
| H | 1.64192600 | -2.47827400 | -0.38573800 |

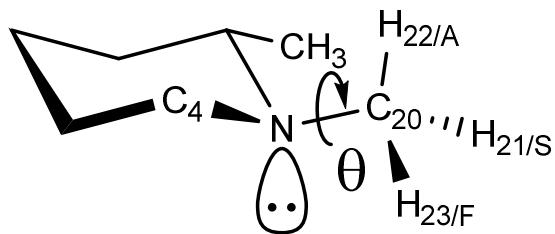


Figure S1. $C_4-N_{19}-C_{20}-H_{21}$ reference atoms used for defining dihedral angle q for B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) relaxed scan of methyl rotation in *N*-methyl-2-methylpiperidine.

Table S2. B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) $N(lp) \rightarrow CH$ s^* delocalization energies (kcal/mol) in *N*-methyl-2-methylpiperidine.

| $q^\circ C_4-N-C_{20}-H_{21}$ | E(2) N to CH_{21} | E(2) N to CH_{22} | E(2) N to CH_{23} |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| -179.4 | 0.67 | 8.00 | 1.27 |
| -169.4 | 0.22 | 7.56 | 1.89 |
| -159.4 | 0.01 | 6.77 | 2.57 |
| -149.4 | 0.11 | 5.65 | 3.26 |
| -139.4 | 0.63 | 4.26 | 3.90 |
| -129.4 | 1.62 | 2.75 | 4.37 |
| -119.4 | 3.01 | 1.41 | 4.49 |
| -109.4 | 4.54 | 0.50 | 4.20 |
| -99.4 | 5.92 | 0.07 | 3.60 |
| -89.4 | 7.00 | 0.02 | 2.87 |
| -79.4 | 7.74 | 0.24 | 2.12 |
| -69.4 | 8.09 | 0.64 | 1.41 |
| -59.4 | 8.08 | 1.17 | 0.80 |
| -49.4 | 7.67 | 1.80 | 0.31 |
| -39.4 | 6.87 | 2.48 | 0.03 |
| -29.4 | 5.66 | 3.21 | 0.07 |
| -19.4 | 4.14 | 3.91 | 0.61 |

| | | | |
|-------|------|------|------|
| -9.4 | 2.59 | 4.41 | 1.77 |
| 0.6 | 1.31 | 4.48 | 3.29 |
| 10.6 | 0.48 | 4.15 | 4.80 |
| 20.6 | 0.08 | 3.54 | 6.08 |
| 30.6 | 0.01 | 2.83 | 7.07 |
| 40.6 | 0.22 | 2.09 | 7.75 |
| 50.6 | 0.64 | 1.40 | 8.10 |
| 60.6 | 1.20 | 0.80 | 8.10 |
| 70.6 | 1.85 | 0.33 | 7.77 |
| 80.6 | 2.55 | 0.04 | 7.03 |
| 90.6 | 3.25 | 0.06 | 5.88 |
| 100.6 | 3.91 | 0.57 | 4.32 |
| 110.6 | 4.39 | 1.74 | 2.61 |
| 120.6 | 4.50 | 3.38 | 1.21 |
| 130.6 | 4.17 | 5.01 | 0.37 |
| 140.6 | 3.54 | 6.35 | 0.03 |
| 150.6 | 2.79 | 7.31 | 0.05 |
| 160.6 | 2.01 | 7.90 | 0.31 |
| 170.6 | 1.29 | 8.13 | 0.73 |
| 180.6 | 0.67 | 8.00 | 1.27 |

2/ CH₂D Rotameric Population Analysis and Chemical Shifts in N-CH₂D-2-Methylpiperidine, N-CH₂D-3-Methylpiperidine and trans-1-CH₂D-2-CH₃-Cyclohexane

The structures of these compounds were optimized and harmonic frequencies calculated in *Gaussian 16* using wb97x/cc-PVTZ theory in a dichloromethane solvent continuum.² Route section: # opt=maxcycle=250 freq=noraman wb97x/cc-pvtz scrf=(solvent=dichloromethane,pcm) density=current geom=connectivity scf=(maxcycle=300,direct,tight). The coordinates for the optimized structures are provided in **Tables S3, S4 and S5**.

The wb97x/cc-PVTZ optimized geometries were then used for gauge-independent atomic orbital (GIAO) NMR shielding calculations in a methylene chloride solvent continuum using Hartree-Fock theory and the 6-311+G(2d,p) basis set.² Route section: # nmr=giao hf/6-311+g(2d,p) scrf=(solvent=dichloromethane,pcm) density=current geom=connectivity scf=(maxcycle=300,direct,tight).

The *Gaussian 16* freqchk utility program was used to obtain the isotopically perturbed thermochemistry (298.15 K, unscaled vibrational frequencies) from fully optimized geometries by means of deuterium replacement at positions 17, 18 and 19 in each of the structures (**Figure S2**).

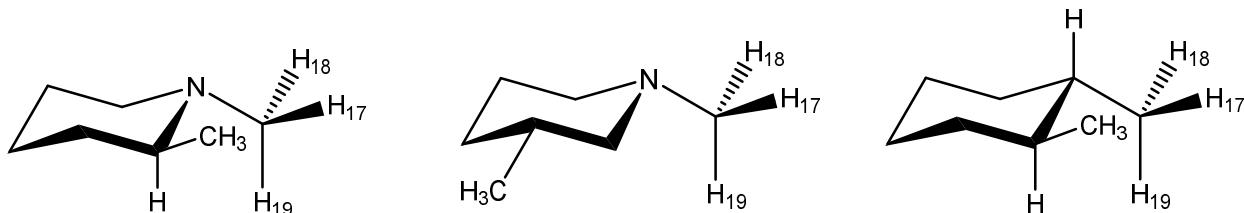


Figure S2. Methyl numbering scheme for (l-r): *N*-methyl-2-methylpiperidine, *N*-methyl-3-methylpiperidine and trans-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane.

The enthalpy and entropy values were extracted from each freqchk output and used to calculate a free energy for each CH₂D rotamer. The free energies were then used to compute the Boltzmann population of each rotamer.³

The proton shifts for each CH₂D proton were computed by taking the difference between the shielding values and that of tetramethylsilane (TMS) computed at the same level of theory (TMS = 32.26 ppm). Following this, the averaged chemical shift for the pro-*R* and pro-*S* protons were calculated from the proton shifts and the corresponding fractional populations using the following equations:

$$H_R = (P_{17} \times \text{Shift}_{19}) + (P_{18} \times \text{Shift}_{17}) + (P_{19} \times \text{Shift}_{18}) \quad (\text{S1})$$

$$H_S = (P_{17} \times \text{Shift}_{18}) + (P_{18} \times \text{Shift}_{19}) + (P_{19} \times \text{Shift}_{17}) \quad (\text{S2})$$

The Boltzmann population and chemical shift analyses for each compound are outlined in **Tables S6-S8**.

Table S3. wB97x/cc-PVTZ Optimized Coordinates for *N*-Methyl-2-Methylpiperidine.

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| C | -1.92565100 | 0.72349100 | 0.25223400 |
| C | -0.63881100 | 1.44615800 | -0.11863500 |
| C | 0.60817300 | 0.66432200 | 0.29090100 |
| C | -0.62960500 | -1.40270500 | 0.12453700 |
| C | -1.90031500 | -0.69154800 | -0.30675200 |
| H | -0.60281900 | 1.60264000 | -1.20195700 |
| H | -0.60343000 | 2.43167200 | 0.35073000 |
| H | -2.01525300 | 0.67921200 | 1.34286100 |
| H | -2.79410800 | 1.27324200 | -0.11522300 |
| H | -0.59059600 | -2.40133200 | -0.31449200 |
| H | -0.64289000 | -1.53600200 | 1.22316900 |
| H | -1.93446000 | -0.65781500 | -1.39933200 |
| H | -2.76821100 | -1.26187600 | 0.02993000 |
| H | 0.60965700 | 0.58125900 | 1.39589800 |
| C | 1.85626700 | 1.42795900 | -0.13125600 |
| H | 1.77915700 | 2.46565000 | 0.19530400 |
| H | 2.64417400 | -1.03568000 | -0.38050700 |
| H | 1.63219200 | -2.47366900 | -0.34172800 |
| H | 1.89209900 | -1.54400400 | 1.14578100 |
| H | 2.76801200 | 1.01589400 | 0.29867600 |
| H | 1.95238000 | 1.41764900 | -1.21926600 |
| N | 0.57009000 | -0.68238200 | -0.28657800 |
| C | 1.74385400 | -1.46437000 | 0.05500600 |

Table S4. wB97x/cc-PVTZ Optimized Coordinates for *N*-Methyl-3-Methylpiperidine.

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| C | 1.23192600 | 1.13342400 | 0.18714700 |
| C | 1.25261700 | -0.29562000 | -0.34799000 |
| C | -0.01495400 | -1.02353400 | 0.08435400 |
| C | -1.26962700 | 1.01476000 | 0.23598800 |
| C | -0.06499600 | 1.83887500 | -0.19061000 |
| H | 1.24415700 | -0.24988100 | -1.44239800 |
| H | 1.32261800 | 1.10036000 | 1.27972500 |
| H | 2.09672600 | 1.68786900 | -0.18498500 |
| H | -2.19399400 | 1.49383700 | -0.09320300 |
| H | -1.30645100 | 0.96572800 | 1.34138800 |
| H | -0.10272700 | 1.98465800 | -1.27368400 |
| H | -0.11688300 | 2.82616800 | 0.27227400 |
| H | 0.00402400 | -1.14824300 | 1.18574100 |
| N | -1.22025800 | -0.32416000 | -0.33021800 |
| C | -2.40334200 | -1.07974200 | 0.02295200 |
| C | 2.49381600 | -1.05176200 | 0.10297200 |
| H | -2.37067300 | -2.06517700 | -0.44356900 |
| H | -3.29623200 | -0.56279300 | -0.33105500 |
| H | -2.50083000 | -1.22140300 | 1.11297700 |
| H | 2.51332200 | -2.06505600 | -0.30289600 |
| H | 3.40194400 | -0.54163700 | -0.22264900 |
| H | 2.52671900 | -1.12642200 | 1.19307000 |
| H | -0.03256500 | -2.02729600 | -0.34808300 |

Table S5. wB97x/cc-PVTZ Optimized Coordinates for trans-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane.

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| C | -1.93315700 | -0.70441300 | -0.29104200 |
| C | -0.66797700 | -1.45603600 | 0.10572100 |
| C | 0.60982500 | -0.71204000 | -0.28903900 |
| C | -0.66797300 | 1.45603900 | -0.10571500 |
| C | -1.93315700 | 0.70441600 | 0.29103600 |
| H | -0.66257300 | -1.60671200 | 1.19250100 |
| H | -0.66192800 | -2.45195000 | -0.34538800 |
| H | -1.98778500 | -0.64228000 | -1.38349700 |
| H | -2.81826300 | -1.25407100 | 0.03685500 |
| H | -0.66192700 | 2.45194800 | 0.34540400 |
| H | -0.66256300 | 1.60672600 | -1.19249300 |
| H | -1.98779300 | 0.64228000 | 1.38349100 |
| H | -2.81825800 | 1.25407700 | -0.03686600 |
| H | 0.61601100 | -0.61669200 | -1.38383900 |
| C | 1.83636000 | -1.51690400 | 0.12749700 |
| H | 1.76927500 | -2.54131400 | -0.24412300 |
| H | 2.76287300 | 1.08791300 | 0.25415100 |
| H | 1.76923900 | 2.54134000 | 0.24402400 |
| H | 1.91208700 | 1.56373000 | -1.21775200 |
| H | 2.76287700 | -1.08786200 | -0.25406800 |
| H | 1.91202400 | -1.56383200 | 1.21774800 |

| | | | |
|---|------------|------------|-------------|
| C | 1.83636600 | 1.51689800 | -0.12750100 |
| C | 0.60982800 | 0.71204100 | 0.28904400 |
| H | 0.61601900 | 0.61669400 | 1.38384400 |

Table S6. Boltzmann Population and pro-*R* and pro-*S* Chemical Shift Analysis for *N*-methyl-2-methylpiperidine.

| N-methyl-2-methylpiperidine | | opt/freq: | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|-----|
| | | D=17 | D=19 | D=18 | | |
| ZPVE | | 133.8128 | 133.9029 | 133.8267 | T = 298.15K | |
| H | | 139.0180 | 139.1070 | 139.0320 | | |
| S | | 86.9470 | 86.9800 | 86.9530 | | |
| G | | 113.0948 | 113.17391 | 113.1069631 | | |
| delG | | 0 | 0.079161 | 0.0122111 | | |
| Nj | | 1 | 0.8749322 | 0.979600916 | | |
| N | | 2.854533 | | | | |
| populations | | 0.35032 | 0.3065062 | 0.343173773 | NMR: hf/6-311+G(2d,p) | |
| | | H=17 | H=19 | H=18 | TMS | |
| shielding | | 29.7179 | 30.6624 | 30.2695 | 32.26 | ppm |
| shift | | 2.5421 | 1.5976 | 1.9905 | | |
| H_R | 2.0421539 | ppm | | | | |
| H_S | 2.0247359 | ppm | | | | |
| $H_R - H_S =$ | 0.0174181 | ppm | | | | |

Table S7. Boltzmann Population and pro-*R* and pro-*S* Chemical Shift Analysis for *N*-methyl-3-methylpiperidine.

| N-methyl-3-methylpiperidine | | opt/freq: | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | D=17 | D=19 | D=18 | | |
| ZPVE | | 133.6747 | 133.7332 | 133.6736 | T = 298.15K | |
| H | | 138.9350 | 138.9930 | 138.9340 | | |
| S | | 87.3280 | 87.3400 | 87.3280 | | |
| G | | 112.8982 | 112.95258 | 112.8971568 | | |
| delG | | 0 | 0.0544222 | -0.001 | | |
| Nj | | 1 | 0.912238 | 1.001689235 | | |
| N | | 2.913927 | | | | |
| populations | | 0.343179 | 0.3130614 | 0.343759178 | NMR: hf/6-311+G(2d,p) | |
| | | H=17 | H=19 | H=18 | TMS | |
| shielding | | 30.1479 | 30.5685 | 30.1342 | 32.26 | |
| shift | | 2.1121 | 1.6915 | 2.1258 | | |
| H_R | 1.9720477 | ppm | | | | |
| H_S | 1.9722164 | ppm | | | | |
| $H_R - H_S =$ | -0.0001688 | ppm | | | | |

Table S8. Boltzmann Population and pro-*R* and pro-*S* Chemical Shift Analysis for trans-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane.

| trans-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane | | opt/freq: | wb97x cc-pvtz | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------|-----------------------|-------|
| | | D=17 | D=19 | D=18 | | |
| ZPVE | 140.9333 | 140.9642 | 140.9455 | | T = 298.15K | |
| H | 146.3180 | 146.3480 | 146.3300 | | | |
| S | 88.1740 | 88.1970 | 88.1790 | | | |
| G | 120.0289 | 120.05206 | 120.0394312 | | | |
| delG | 0 | 0.0231426 | 0.01050925 | | | |
| Nj | 1 | 0.9616928 | 0.982418766 | | | |
| N | 2.944112 | | | | | |
| populations | 0.339661 | 0.3266496 | 0.333689383 | | | |
| | | | | | NMR: hf/6-311+G(2d,p) | |
| | | H=17 | H=19 | H=18 | | TMS |
| shielding | | 31.0088 | 31.7759 | 31.4957 | | 32.26 |
| shift | | 1.2512 | 0.4841 | 0.7643 | | |
| H _R | 0.8316003 | ppm | | | | |
| H _S | 0.8298459 | ppm | | | | |
| H _R -H _S = | 0.0017544 | ppm | | | | |

3/ CH₂D Rotameric Population Analysis and NBO Analysis in 1-CH₂D-2-methylphosphinane

The structure was optimized and harmonic frequencies calculated in *Gaussian 16* using B3LYP/6-31(d,p) theory.² Route section: # opt freq b3lyp/6-31g(d,p) geom=connectivity. The coordinates for the optimized structure are provided in **Table S9**.

The *Gaussian 16* freqchk utility program was used to obtain the isotopically perturbed thermochemistry (298.15 K, unscaled vibrational frequencies) from fully optimized geometries by means of deuterium replacement at positions 21, 22 and 23 (**Figure S3**).

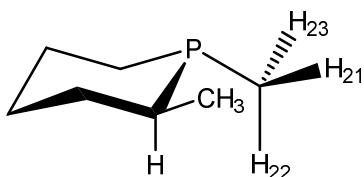


Figure S3. Methyl numbering scheme for 1,2-dimethylphosphinane.

The Boltzmann population analysis is outlined in **Table S10**.

A B3LYP/3-31G(d,p) NBO calculation was performed on the optimized structure. Route section: # b3lyp/6-31g(d,p) pop=(full,savenbos,nboread) geom=connectivity. The default threshold for NBO E(2) delocalization energies is 0.5 kcal/mol; this threshold was lowered to 0.001 kcal/mol by adding additional input in the form of a final line within the *Gaussian* input file: \$NBO E2PERT=0.001 \$END.

The E(2) values for the P(lp) / 1-methyl C-H bond interactions are provided in **Table S11**.

Table S9. B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) Optimized Coordinates for 1,2-dimethylphosphinane.

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| C | -2.11537200 | 0.52200000 | 0.39401600 |
| C | -1.00072000 | 1.47158500 | -0.07361500 |
| C | 0.42225900 | 0.99596200 | 0.28171800 |
| C | -0.69369700 | -1.58938800 | 0.12273300 |
| C | -2.02056900 | -0.88778400 | -0.21051100 |
| H | -1.07340900 | 1.61213700 | -1.16174700 |
| H | -1.16009800 | 2.46316300 | 0.37214400 |
| H | -2.08391600 | 0.44466000 | 1.49027800 |
| H | -3.08995800 | 0.95917900 | 0.14481600 |
| H | -0.68048400 | -2.60277400 | -0.29440700 |
| H | -0.58579400 | -1.68564600 | 1.21225700 |
| H | -2.13698400 | -0.82359600 | -1.30088200 |
| H | -2.85726500 | -1.49731700 | 0.15363000 |
| H | 0.46242700 | 0.81774600 | 1.36736000 |
| C | 1.47573800 | 2.04891100 | -0.08579200 |
| H | 1.27095100 | 2.99749400 | 0.42514700 |
| H | 2.48577700 | 1.73474600 | 0.19722000 |
| H | 1.47826400 | 2.24402600 | -1.16388100 |
| P | 0.76158600 | -0.64251300 | -0.58857200 |
| C | 2.14024800 | -1.32731400 | 0.46781300 |
| H | 3.06922100 | -0.78676900 | 0.26484300 |
| H | 1.92306700 | -1.26700000 | 1.54032800 |
| H | 2.30709700 | -2.37618300 | 0.20330800 |

Table S10. Boltzmann Population Analysis for 1,2-dimethylphoshinane.

| 1,2-dimethylphosphinane | b3lyp/6-31g(d,p) | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | opt/freq: | | D=23 |
| | D=21 | D=22 | |
| ZPVE | 128.6807 | 128.6893 | 128.6874 |
| H | 134.7620 | 134.7720 | 134.7690 |
| S | 93.7850 | 93.7790 | 93.7900 |
| G | 106.8 | 106.81179 | 106.8055115 |
| delG | 0 | 0.0117889 | 0.00550925 |
| Nj | 1 | 0.9802992 | 0.99074453 |
| N | 2.971044 | | |
| populations | 0.336582 | 0.3299511 | 0.333466826 |

Table S11. B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) P(lp)→CH σ* delocalization energies (kcal/mol) in 1,2-dimethylphosphinane.

| E(2) P to CH ₂₁ | E(2) P to CH ₂₂ | E(2) P to CH ₂₃ |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0.01 | 3.09 | 0.00 |

4/ Conformational Energies and ^1H NMR Chemical Shifts in Methyl 1-Methylpiperidine Carboxylate Rotamers

The GS1 geometry of the diequatorial structure of methyl 1-methylpiperidine carboxylate was first optimized in *Gaussian 16* using B3LYP/6-31G(d) theory. Route section: # opt b3lyp/6-31g(d) geom=connectivity. The coordinates for the optimized structure are provided in **Table S12**.

This structure was used as the starting point for a relaxed dihedral angle scan, at the same level of theory, for 360° rotation about the C₃-C₂₀ bond in 10° increments, using N₁₅-C₃-C₂₀-O₂₁ as reference atoms for defining the dihedral angle (**Figure S4**). Route section: # opt=modredundant b3lyp/6-31g(d) geom=connectivity.

The relative energies for each dihedral angle (q) are provided in **Table S13**.

The scan revealed one minimum energy structure in addition to GS1. This structure (GS2) was then fully optimized in *Gaussian 16* using B3LYP/6-31G(d) theory. Route section: # opt b3lyp/6-31g(d) geom=connectivity. The coordinates for the optimized structure are provided in **Table S14**.

The B3LYP/6-31G(d) optimized geometries of GS1 and GS2 were then used for GIAO NMR shielding calculations in a chloroform solvent continuum using the WP04 density functional and the cc-PVTZ basis set. Route section: # nmr=giao blyp/cc-pvdz scrf=(solvent=chloroform) geom=connectivity iop(3/76=1000001189,3/77=0961409999,3/78=0000109999).

This procedure⁴⁻⁵ directly reveals ^1H chemical shifts, which are obtained by scaling the shielding values m according to the equation $\delta ^1\text{H} = (31.8444 - m)/1.0205$.

The ^1H NMR shielding values and chemical shifts for the N-CH₃ hydrogen atoms are compiled in **Table S15**.

Table S12. B3LYP/6-31G(d) Optimized Coordinates for Methyl 1-Methylpiperidine Carboxylate (GS1 Conformation).

| | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| C | -1.98612700 | -1.73545500 | -0.13768100 |
| C | -0.52932000 | -1.46159300 | 0.24656100 |
| C | -0.04851800 | -0.09367500 | -0.29716900 |
| C | -2.31688300 | 0.75071000 | -0.25861300 |
| C | -2.86771000 | -0.56198500 | 0.29896400 |
| H | -0.43091300 | -1.44327000 | 1.33923200 |
| H | 0.13317600 | -2.24560800 | -0.13646400 |
| H | -2.06008400 | -1.865333000 | -1.22720000 |
| H | -2.32580700 | -2.67392600 | 0.31743400 |
| H | -2.91408600 | 1.59435100 | 0.10650200 |
| H | -2.41436000 | 0.74701100 | -1.36578600 |
| H | -2.88958500 | -0.50209100 | 1.39461900 |
| H | -3.90081600 | -0.69899000 | -0.04367900 |
| H | -0.00878200 | -0.15519900 | -1.40326700 |
| N | -0.92826200 | 0.98434200 | 0.14990900 |
| C | -0.48058200 | 2.29849900 | -0.30141800 |
| H | 0.51139800 | 2.51556800 | 0.09915800 |
| H | -0.44954800 | 2.38887300 | -1.40562100 |
| H | -1.16970500 | 3.05999500 | 0.07834000 |
| C | 1.38497900 | 0.10070700 | 0.19545900 |

| | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------|
| O | 1.73236100 | 0.67081300 | 1.20484900 |
| O | 2.24734300 | -0.52780400 | -0.63979700 |
| C | 3.62404400 | -0.50425200 | -0.23020400 |
| H | 3.74486000 | -0.98455200 | 0.74462300 |
| H | 4.16802000 | -1.05391000 | -0.99903300 |
| H | 3.98713000 | 0.52486500 | -0.16402900 |

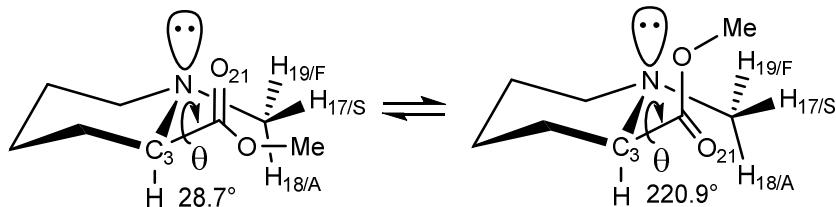


Figure S4. $N_{15}\text{-}C_3\text{-}C_{20}\text{-}O_{21}$ reference atoms used for defining dihedral angle q for B3LYP/6-31G(d) relaxed scan of ester rotation in methyl 1-methylpiperidine carboxylate.

Table S13. B3LYP/6-31G(d) conformational energies (kcal/mol) for ester rotation in methyl 1-methylpiperidine carboxylate.

| $q^\circ N_{15}\text{-}C_3\text{-}C_{20}\text{-}O_{21}$ | Energy (relative) |
|---|-------------------|
| 28.706 | -5E-07 |
| 38.706 | 0.0703 |
| 48.706 | 0.2189 |
| 58.706 | 0.3768 |
| 68.706 | 0.5489 |
| 78.706 | 0.8054 |
| 88.706 | 1.2037 |
| 98.706 | 1.7531 |
| 108.71 | 2.4259 |
| 118.71 | 3.1766 |
| 128.71 | 3.93 |
| 138.71 | 4.524 |
| 148.71 | 4.6231 |
| 158.71 | 4.0727 |
| 168.71 | 3.1437 |
| 178.71 | 2.1469 |
| 188.71 | 1.3049 |
| 198.71 | 0.7114 |
| 208.71 | 0.3716 |
| 218.71 | 0.244 |
| 228.71 | 0.2846 |
| 238.71 | 0.4611 |
| 248.71 | 0.7387 |
| 258.71 | 1.0962 |

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| | 268.71 | 1.515 |
| | 278.71 | 1.9929 |
| | 288.71 | 2.529 |
| | 298.71 | 3.0901 |
| | 308.71 | 3.5434 |
| | 318.71 | 3.6522 |
| | 328.71 | 3.2947 |
| | 338.71 | 2.5886 |
| | 348.71 | 1.7553 |
| | 358.71 | 0.9926 |
| | 368.71 | 0.4236 |
| | 378.71 | 0.0972 |
| | 388.71 | -2E-06 |

Table S14. B3LYP/6-31G(d) Optimized Coordinates for Methyl 1-Methylpiperidine Carboxylate (GS2 Conformation).

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| C | 2.22692700 | -1.50822700 | 0.06409100 |
| C | 0.69632000 | -1.50134600 | 0.00585200 |
| C | 0.11985300 | -0.17499300 | 0.55293200 |
| C | 2.14714600 | 0.99962100 | -0.06855300 |
| C | 2.77987600 | -0.26780500 | -0.64446500 |
| H | 0.36298100 | -1.61492000 | -1.03263200 |
| H | 0.27732000 | -2.33280900 | 0.58471700 |
| H | 2.55471900 | -1.50845100 | 1.11368800 |
| H | 2.61773100 | -2.42689900 | -0.39020400 |
| H | 2.49753600 | 1.88018800 | -0.61988000 |
| H | 2.47932500 | 1.12854200 | 0.98380900 |
| H | 2.55469600 | -0.32230300 | -1.71733000 |
| H | 3.87037600 | -0.21030100 | -0.54007600 |
| H | 0.33122500 | -0.12039100 | 1.63841400 |
| N | 0.68363900 | 0.97315700 | -0.16124500 |
| C | 0.12139800 | 2.23761600 | 0.30037600 |
| H | -0.95944200 | 2.25434100 | 0.13375600 |
| H | 0.31250400 | 2.43369500 | 1.37345300 |
| H | 0.55960300 | 3.05845100 | -0.27715600 |
| C | -1.40322100 | -0.25300300 | 0.45588900 |
| O | -2.12268900 | -0.55312500 | 1.38472900 |
| O | -1.85652600 | -0.02882200 | -0.79545500 |
| C | -3.27706000 | -0.16393100 | -0.96357200 |
| H | -3.81053900 | 0.53788300 | -0.31680500 |
| H | -3.46903300 | 0.05949700 | -2.01342600 |
| H | -3.59818000 | -1.18064500 | -0.72110700 |

Table S15. WP04/cc-PVDZ (PCM = chloroform) ¹H NMR shielding values and calculated chemical shifts in the GS1 and GS2 conformers of methyl 1-methylpiperidine carboxylate.

| conformer | H label | shielding (ppm) | calculated shift (ppm) |
|-----------|---------|-----------------|------------------------|
| GS1 | H-17/S | 29.1881 | 2.59 |
| GS1 | H-18/A | 30.069 | 1.73 |
| GS1 | H-19/F | 29.7928 | 2.00 |
| GS2 | H-17/S | 29.5454 | 2.24 |
| GS2 | H-18/A | 29.8961 | 1.90 |
| GS2 | H-19/F | 29.716 | 2.08 |

References

1. Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Scalmani, G.; V. Barone; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Li, X.; Caricato, M.; Marenich, A. V.; Bloino, J.; Janesko, B. G.; Gomperts, R.; Mennucci, B.; Hratchian, H. P.; Ortiz, J. V.; Izmaylov, A. F.; Sonnenberg, J. L.; D. Williams-Young; Ding, F.; Lipparini, F.; Egidi, F.; Goings, J.; Peng, B.; A. Petrone; Henderson, T.; Ranasinghe, D.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Gao, J.; N. Rega; Zheng, G.; Liang, W.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; R. Fukuda; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; H. Nakai; Vreven, T.; Throssell, K.; J. A. Montgomery, J.; J. E. Peralta; Ogliaro, F.; Bearpark, M. J.; Heyd, J. J.; Brothers, E. N.; K. N. Kudin; Staroverov, V. N.; Keith, T. A.; Kobayashi, R.; J. Normand; Raghavachari, K.; Rendell, A. P.; Burant, J. C.; S. S. Iyengar; Tomasi, J.; Cossi, M.; Millam, J. M.; Klene, M.; Adamo, C.; R. Cammi; Ochterski, J. W.; Martin, R. L.; Morokuma, K.; O. Farkas; Foresman, J. B.; Fox, D. J. *Gaussian 16, Revision A.03, Gaussian, Inc.*, Wallingford CT, 2016.
2. Ogba, O. M.; Elliott, S. J.; Kolin, D. A.; Brown, L. J.; Cevallos, S.; Sawyer, S.; Levitt, M. H.; O'Leary, D. J., Origins of Small Proton Chemical Shift Differences in Monodeuterated Methyl Groups. *J Org Chem* **2017**, 82 (17), 8943-8949.
3. Ogba, O. M.; Thoburn, J. D.; O'Leary, D. J., Spreadsheet-Based Computational Predictions of Isotope Effects. In *Applied theoretical organic chemistry*, Tantillo, D. J., Ed. World Scientific: New Jersey, 2018; pp 403-450.
4. Jain, R.; Bally, T.; Rablen, P. R., Calculating Accurate Proton Chemical Shifts of Organic Molecules with Density Functional Methods and Modest Basis Sets. *J Org Chem* **2009**, 74 (11), 4017-4023.
5. Bally, T.; Rablen, P. R., Quantum-Chemical Simulation of H-1 NMR Spectra. 2. Comparison of DFT-Based Procedures for Computing Proton-Proton Coupling Constants in Organic Molecules. *J Org Chem* **2011**, 76 (12), 4818-4830.